IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| n re Application of: |) | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------|
| Yasushi IWATA et al. |) | Confirmation No.: Unknown |
| Application No.: 10/522,811 |) | Group Art Unit: Unknown |
| Filed: January 31, 2005 |) | Examiner: To Be Assigned |
| For: Ultra-Low Carbon Stainless Steel | .) | |

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria. VA 22314

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO Form 1449. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Accordingly, Applicants do not believe that a fee is due for filing this paper.

The references cited herein were previously cited in a Search Report in this PCT

Application and/or a Communication from the EPO in an EP counterpart application. Copies of the Communications are attached.

Applicants request that the Examiner consider the listed document and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached PTO Form 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that any better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes

1-WA/24416701 REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /D.Y./

10522811 - GAU:

PATENT

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 040894-7174

Page 2

"Prior Art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "Prior Art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of the document.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

EXCEPT for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. § 1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Oct 28,2005 9/12 Dated: <u>August 31, 2005</u>

CUSTOMER NO. 009629 MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP 1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20004

Tel.: (202) 739-3000 Fax: (202) 739-3001

Robert J. Goodell Reg. No. 41,040

10522811 - GAU:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION Attorney Docket No. Application No.: 10/522,811

(Use several sheets if necessary) PTO Form 1449 Applicants: Yasushi IWATA et al. PAGE 1 of 1

Confirmation No.:

Filing Date: January 31, 2005

Group Art Unit:

HE DATENT DOCUMENTS

| | C.S.TATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|------|------|-------|--------------|-------------|--|--|
| | *Examiner Initial | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date | | |
| 1 | | - | | | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation YES | NO |
|---|--------------------|----------|---------|-------|--------------|--------------------|----|
| | 03-006362 | 11-01-91 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | 59-157273 | 06-09-84 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | 63-203770 | 23-08-88 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | 04-180559 | 26-06-92 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | 04-168273 | 16-06-92 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | 02-250952 | 08-10-90 | Japan | | | Abstract | 1 |
| | 04-325677 | 16-11-92 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | 06-041716 | 15-02-94 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| · | DE19820152A1 | 11-11-99 | Germany | | | Abstract | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Taketeru Umeda et al. "Zairyo technology 9 zairyo no process gijutsu (1)", Zairyo Technology Zairyo No Process Gijutsu, XP002973834, 30 November 1987, pp. 231-236.

J.L. Whitton et al., "Chromium Nitride and Martensite Formation in Nitrogen-Implanted Single Crystal Stainless Steel", Materials Science and Engineering, XP002332827 CA, Vol. 69, 1985, pp. 111-116.

G. Deamley, "Adhesive, Abrasive and Oxidative Wear in Ion-Implanted Metals", Materials Science and Engineering, XP002332828 UK, Vol. 69, 1985, pp. 139-147.

C.W. Wegst, "Stahlschlüssel" Verlag Stahlschlüssel Wegst GMBH, XP002332829 DE, 2001, p. 523.

Examiner /Deborah Yee/ Date Considered 09/03/2009

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.